

November 1, 2018

Dear Mike,

Thanks so much for your letter. It meant a lot and was appreciated on all topics and levels. I almost wish I still had a typewriter (had a few until I moved here a few years ago) to respond on.

Right now, I'm doing okay, and probably better than that. I am doing something called immunotherapy which is a lot less intrusive than chemo. And for the most part I've been feeling pretty good. I won't know how well it's working until after the next infusion which is in a couple of weeks, when they'll do blood work and also a CT scan. After that, they'll decide if they want to do more infusion - how many will have to be determined at that point I guess. It's not that bad. You go and sit in a chair for about a half an hour while stuff drips into your arm. They have free soda and snacks there that you can take while you're doing it and they have a little TV you can watch while it's happening. I brought a book with me, but then you run the risk of the infusion getting disconnected if you move your arm too much, so actually the TV (as idiotic as it is, is better).

The concert was a huge success and sold out! You probably found the youtube link that has the entire show, but if not, you can find the link at my website under news. I opened the show with a short 30 minute acoustic set. Then a bunch of other musicians came on. Some did my songs, others didn't. One (who didn't) read from a review I wrote of Bob's Towson concert that we went to together. Other people played songs either they knew I'd like or had some connection with me. Everyone who played was a friend. The club wanted other performers to help the draw. Considering we had something like 2 ½ weeks to put the show together and very few rehearsals, it pretty much went off without a hitch. There were three people there from England, some from upstate NY, one from DC, and two of the players (former members of one of my bands) flew in from Memphis and Florida. It was a bit hectic in that A LOT of people wanted to talk to me, and I simply didn't have time to do much more than say hello, since I wanted to personally introduce a lot of the guests. I closed the show with a much longer band set, and in the middle of the set was a brief two-song reunion of my '90s band The Fumblers. I also had backup singers on a couple of songs. I got three encores, the first of which was "Wayfaring Stranger" with the band, and then I came back solo and did "Farewell Angelina" and "Mr. Tambourine Man." All in all, it was an overwhelming night.

I haven't done a thing yet with the stuff I recorded. Just winding down from the experience of the show along with starting treatment took a couple of

weeks. And I also had people visiting from England, so a lot of the merriment continued for a few days after the show. Anyway back to the recordings, bass needs to be laid down on a lot of the tracks. My brother who came down from slightly upstate NY and said it was the best he'd ever seen me, told me a few days later that if he were producing me, it would just be with bass and acoustic lead. I'm still mulling that one over.

And to answer your other question, yes I am fully intending to see Bob both in Atlantic City and here. (I was sort of hoping someone would get me a Beacon ticket, but that didn't happen.) I know quite a few people who've seen the current tour (in Florida and Tennessee among other places) and all reports have been great. I don't know if you've heard any of it, but he's continuing his penchant for arranging his songs with riffs from old or older rock 'n' roll. For instance "Cry A While" is Link Wray's "Rumble."

I'm sorry to hear you've been going through shit, but I know how it is, so (while I had this expression), hang in there.

Other than that, once again, when I saw the envelope with your name on it, I was really happy, and when I opened it to find a REAL honest to goodness letter, it made my day.

Take care of yourself my friend.